

## **The Good, Bad, and Ugly - Student Response Summary**

As a part of the Kentucky Department of Education “Voices of Reason” Student Summits, Middle and High School students attended a session entitled “the Good, the Bad and the Ugly.” Students were asked to provide input on what they would describe as “The Good” about their school. Next, they were asked to tell what they did not like about their schools “the Bad”. Lastly, they were asked to indicate what was absolutely in need of change in their school; “The Ugly.” If these things did not change, they could prove to be serious barriers for other students to find success in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century post-secondary world. While the “Good” and the “Bad” indicated many cultural issues, it was the “Ugly” that proved most profound in light of recent Refocusing Secondary discussions. Here is what the kids said...

### **Top 20 Items that continued to repeat from the Ugly list... (5) Summits**

- 1. More Rigorous Classes in electives and required classes- we want more preparation - less busy work**
- 2. More classes to choose from that would impact life after high school -Practical Living classes**
- 3. More and better AP classes**
- 4. More Foreign Languages - introduction through AP**
- 5. More student voice in their school**
- 6. Dual Credit options – Early College classes**
- 7. More caring teachers/administrators**
- 8. Lowered student: teacher ratios**
- 9. Less emphasis on CATS prep - more on Post-secondary options**
- 10. Better advisors throughout MS to HS – mentoring relationships**
- 11. More Post-Secondary guidance opportunities – College to Vocational Options – Career education**
- 12. More ACT and SAT preparation**
- 13. Higher qualified teachers**
- 14. More technology**
- 15. More Sex education/Practical Living applications–teen pregnancy/STDs**
- 16. More money to spend for educational materials**
- 17. Smaller schools – more personal interaction**
- 18. More School spirit and pride**
- 19. Better extra-curricular support**
- 20. Drop-outs - prevented or reclaimed by school**